

five separate occasions because of economic downturns. We have done that routinely in the past. It should not have taken this long. There are a significant number of people whose unemployment benefits have expired. We have a number of people who won't be able to collect unemployment benefits. It is really too bad that people have fallen through the cracks who have gone from welfare to work and who do not meet the requirements statutorily. They certainly should be included, and I hope some consideration will be given them also.

Again, the majority leader will, after the cloture votes, ask unanimous consent that there be 13 additional weeks of unemployment insurance extended to those people who so desperately need it.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I understand that I have 5 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator may take up to 10 minutes under the order.

#### EXTENSION OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I am here this morning to express my disappointment that I am not going to have an opportunity to call for the yeas and nays on the permanent extension of the research and development tax credit. It has to be one of the most important provisions and amendments that will be made to the stimulus package.

I again am disappointed that stimulus package is not going to move forward out of the Senate. Many of us have worked hard. We think it is time for us to have a stimulus package. The economy needs to have that happen.

I want to refer to some charts and to what some very key individuals are saying about the R&D tax credit being extended on a permanent basis. Right now, it is not extended on a permanent basis. I think the National Association of Manufacturers is trying to address the question. I think they have said it very succinctly. They ask: Why worry? They say: because the R&D tax credit expires in 2 years and major R&D projects take an average of 5 to 10 years to complete.

If we don't get this passed now and move forward, that is going to be another reason our economy will not move forward. I am very concerned about that.

The Democrats in the Senate also recognize the importance of the R&D tax credit. I looked at what the majority leader said in January of 2002. He said:

We should act to make the research and development tax credit permanent; the sooner the better.

The action we are getting from the Senate today doesn't show any interest at all in moving forward in keeping up with the "sooner the better" pledge.

This is a serious problem and a catastrophe.

The R&D development tax credit is one of the most effective mechanisms to encourage innovation, increase business investment, and keep the economy growing.

Again, that is the majority leader speaking on January 4 of this year.

I am extremely disappointed that we will not have an opportunity to bring this amendment up for discussion.

Just to again point out how important this amendment is to the economic recovery of this country to restore economic prosperity, I would like to show you a one-half-page ad from the Wall Street Journal.

Mr. President, I show you an ad that was put in the Wall Street Journal from Ontario, Canada. It points out: "The Future's Right Here" in Ontario, Canada.

They say:

With pharmaceutical R&D spending up 300 percent in the past decade, Ontario is proving to be an excellent locale for life sciences.

The reason they are saying that is because they have a research and development tax credit of which companies can take advantage.

They go on further to say: "Protection of intellectual property rights and R&D tax credits, [which are] among the most generous in the industrialized world, are a couple of key contributing factors" and why it is so important to do business in Ontario.

We are missing the boat. We need to do more to encourage economic research and development in this country. It is key to restoring economic prosperity.

Again, I cannot emphasize enough how very disappointed I am that I am not going to have an opportunity, along with Senator HATCH, who has worked very hard on this particular amendment over the years, to get it passed on a permanent basis.

In addition to what I have shown here, we have looked up studies that say the permanent extension may, in some cases, by 2010, increase domestic economic growth by \$58 billion.

We have the tax credit available for incremental research and activities in both the United States and Puerto Rico where 75 percent of research and development tax credit dollars go to salaries and wages of employees associated therewith. These are high-paying American jobs, and high-paying American jobs pay taxes. It is taxes that go to the Federal Government and help us balance our budget at the Federal level.

So it is important. I am disappointed that not only my amendment but other amendments that would lead to economic growth in this country are not going to have an opportunity to be brought up. I cannot emphasize enough how very disappointed I am that this has been stalled because of action on the other side, even after we have had such positive statements made on January 4 of this year as to how we need to move forward with some of these tax

cut provisions that stimulate economic growth, such as the research and development tax credit.

Mr. President, I yield the remainder of my time to the Senator from Texas.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield for a moment—I think this is the order in which we appeared on the floor—so we can all make plans, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senator from Texas finishes, I be recognized for 5 minutes, and then the Senator from Georgia be recognized for 5 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. GRAMM. And that following that, the Senator from Missouri be recognized for 5 minutes. I think that covers everybody present.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. GRAMM. I was just setting up a procedure where we can all speak.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Texas.

#### NEED FOR A STIMULUS PACKAGE

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, so many of us wanted a stimulus package. The President asked for a stimulus package. We see the stock market continuing to go up and down, up and down. It certainly has not stabilized yet. We wanted to try to stimulate investment to try to make sure we would have an economy that would be able to remain strong as we are prosecuting a war for the very freedom of future generations in our country. But what we had before us was not a stimulus package. It was the end of a compromise without the compromise part.

There was no tax cut. There was no help for people who pay taxes. There was no stimulation for businesses that would invest in plant and equipment. And that is what we need to make sure we have those manufacturing jobs.

What I had hoped to do—and I had already filed the amendment—was to make permanent some of the tax cuts that are temporary over the next 10 years. I wanted to make permanent the marriage penalty relief that is in the tax bill that Congress has already passed and the President has signed but which could teeter in the next few years if we have a change in Congress.

Why should anyone have to pay a penalty because they get married? Why should they pay a different rate in a higher tax bracket when they get married as opposed to when they were single?

We are trying to correct the marriage penalty. Making marriage penalty relief permanent so people can count on it would be a stimulus.

Repeal of the death tax is one of the most important things Congress has done. Congress has finally acknowledged money that has been taxed when